Regulation) Act, 1976 to encourage private participation in Urban infrastructure; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU): (a) and (b) Provisions of various Local Services belong to the functional domains of municipalities. Privatisation of Local Public Services in urban infrastructure depends on Municipal and State Policies. While the Government of India supports Privatisation of Civic Services on grounds of cost-effectiveness and efficiencies, there is no scheme formulated by Government of India in the matter as the subject pertains to the State list.

(c) and (d) Government of India is considering proposals to amend the Urban Land (Ceiling & Regulation) Act, 1976 in order to make it more workable and effective by shifting its thrust from acquistion to development primarily for housing. The State Governments have been requested to give their suggestions regarding amendments to the act which are still awaited. Amendment proposals will be finalised only thereafter.

Review of decision to hand over land for Maharashtra Sadan

2925. PROF. RAM KAPSE: Will the Minister of PRIME MINISTER be pleased to refer to Unstarred Question 1422 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 5th December, 1996 and state:

(a) whether Government propose to review their decision to hand over an alternative site for construction of Maharashtra Sadan, which the Maharashtra Government has already rejected;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINSITER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) According to 1949 order of Government of India, the Government of India is entitled to receive 75% of unearned increase and 25% can be kept by the lessee. Hence the Government of India has decided to offer 1.5 acres of land in Srinivas Puri (layout plan No. LDO-2054/1) to Maharashtra Government in lieu of 6 acres Sirmur plot.

उत्तर प्रदेश में निजी पार्टियों द्वारा विद्युत उत्पादन

2926. **श्री मोहम्मद आजम खान:** क्या प्रधान मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या उत्तर प्रदेश में निजी क्षेत्र में विद्युत उत्पादन से संबंधित कार्य को मुलायम सिंह यादव सरकार द्वारा कुछ स्थानों पर अनेक निजी कंपनियों को दिया गया था परंतु सरकार के अचानक गिर जाने के कारण निर्णय वहीं पर रुक गया है; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो क्या यह कार्य पुन: प्रारंभ किया जाएगा और कोई समयबद्ध कार्यक्रम बनाने की योजना है, यदि हां, तो इसकी समय-सीमा क्या है?

विद्युत मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री तथा गैर-पारंपरिक ऊर्जा मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (डा. एस. वेणुगोपालाचारी): (क) जी, नहीं।

(ख) प्रश्न उत्पन्न नहीं होता।

Unauthorised construction and encroachment in Ganga Ram Vatika, Tilak Nagar

2927. DR. JAGANNATH MISHRA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received complaints from the residents of Ganga Ram Vatika, Tilak Nagar, Delhi about unauthorised construction and encroachment on public land in that locality; if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether any communication from a Member of Parliament was also received in that connection; if so, when and the action taken thereon; and

(c) if no action has been taken, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS & EMPLOYMENT & MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY

AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU): (a) and (c) The Municipal Corporation of Delhi has reported that a complaint about unathorised construction/encroachment on Government land and about other points has been received from the residents of Ganga Ram Vatika. The temporary encroachment in the shape of weighing bridge on footpath was removed on 3.12.1996. The unauthorised construction in the shape of shed was noticed in plot No. R1-17, Ganga Ram Vatika. Demolition orders have been passed in this case. Demolition action is taken by the Municipal Corporation of Delhi as per its policy.

(b) No such communication from the Member of the Parliament seems to have been received.

Poverty eradication schemes under minimum common programme

2928. SHRI IQBAL SINGH: Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of poverty alleviation schemes being implemented under the Minimum Common Programme in the country; particularly in Punjab, during 1996-97; and

(b) the other effective measures being taken by Government to eradicate poverty in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH): (a) The major poverty alleviation schemes being implemented in the country during 1996-97 are (i) The Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP), (ii) The Jawahar Rozgar Yojana (JRY); (iii) The Employment Assurance Scheme (EAS); (iv) The Nehru Rozgar Yojana; (v) The Urban Basic Services for the Poor (UBSP); and (vi) The Prime Minister's Integrated Urban Poverty Eradication Programme (PM's IUPEP). The first three Programmes are being implemented in the rural areas of the country and the remaining three are urban poverty alleviation programmes. The Employment Assurance Scheme is at present being implemented in 3206 blocks of the country in all States and Union Territories excluding Goa, Punjab, Chandigarh, Delhi and Pondicherry. However, it is proposed to extend the coverage of the EAS to all the blocks of the country (including the State of Punjab) during 1996-97 and 1997-98. The details of the poverty alleviation programmes is given at Statement (*See* below).

(b) In addition the Government proposes to strengthen the Minimum Needs Programme (MNP) which emphasises necessary allocation to important social development components which affect the quality of life of the people. Special outlays are earmarked in the plans of the State Government for these programmes.

In a recent Conference of Chief Ministers, the provision of seven Basic Minimum Services throughout the country in a time bound manner was endorsed. These basic services are:

(i) Hundred per cent coverage of provision of safe drinking water in rural and urban areas.

(ii) Hundred per cent coverage of primary health service facilities in rural and urban areas.

(iii) Universalisation of primary education.

(iv) Provision of Public Housing Assistance to all shelterless poor families.

(v) Extension of Mid-day-Meal programme in primary schools, to all rural blocks and urban slums and disadvantaged sections.

(vi) Provision of connectivity to all unconnected villages and habitations.

(vii) Streamline the Public Distribution System with focus upon the poor.

An amount of Rs. 2466 crore has been provided as additional Central assistance for States and UTs in the budget for 1996-97 in order to increase the availability of funds for these Basic Minimum Services. However, from this amount Rs. 250 crore has been earmarked for slum dwellers. The remaining Rs. 2216 crore will be addition to the